

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



Applicant: STOLLER, Jerry H. § Atty. Docket No.: SLRE.103540/01  
Serial No.: 10/720,326 10/677,108 §  
Filing Date: October 2, 2003 §  
Title: SUPPRESSING PLANT §  
PATHOGENS AND PESTS WITH §  
APPLIED OR INDUCED AUXINS § Group Art Unit: 1617  
§ Examiner: CLARDY, S. Mark

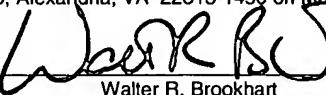
**RESPONSE**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING - 37 C.F.R. § 1.8**

I hereby certify that this correspondence and all referenced enclosures are being deposited by me with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postage prepaid in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on March 27, 2006.

By:   
Walter R. Brookhart

This is a Response for filing in the captioned application. After grant of the enclosed Petition for Extension of Time, this Response is due Monday, March 27, 2006. This Response is, therefore, timely.

**THE REMARKS**

Applicant believes that consideration of the following remarks will place this application into condition for allowance.

Claims 1-70 are presented for examination. Claims 1-32 are directed to methods for inhibiting disease on or in plant tissues by applying an auxin (Claims 1-24 and 28-32) or a plant growth hormone, precursor or conjugate (Claims 25-27) to specific plant parts after planting or to seeds or tubers before planting. It is known from the prior art that such compounds may result in uncontrolled growth and death of plants. That knowledge forms the basis of several very effective commercial weed killers. Accordingly, in order to achieve the desired results, it is critical that the auxin